

**ABSTRACT****MACHINE FOR THE PREPARATION OF BEVERAGES**

5        A closure mechanism for a beverage preparation machine  
comprising a fixed lower part and an upper part rotatable  
relative to the lower part, the upper part being moveable  
from an open position, in which the upper part is disengaged  
from the lower part, and a closed position, in which the  
10 upper part is engaged with the lower part, the closure  
mechanism further comprising a clamping lever operable to  
retain the upper part in the closed position, wherein the  
clamping lever comprises a first member being pivotably  
connected at a first pivot to the upper part and a second  
15 member having a first end pivotable about a second pivot, an  
end of the first member and a second end of the second  
member being pivotably connected together at a third pivot  
such that the clamping lever has first and second positions  
of stability, wherein on operation of the clamping lever to  
20 move the upper part from the open position to the closed  
position the clamping lever moves from the first to the  
second position of stability.